



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

News Release

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Corps reopens Lucky Peak dam road to public

Boise, Idaho, -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will reopen Crest Road across Lucky Peak Dam to the public on Nov. 15, opening the only available boat launch on the lake.

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, closed the road for the first time since the completion of the dam in 1955.

The road was reopened during the 2002 summer recreation season on a limited schedule, May 15 – Sept. 15.

"New security measures in place have allowed us to re-open the road," said Lucky Peak Project Manager Dave Brownell. Crest Road is only public access to Foote Park, Barclay Bay and Turner Gulch recreation areas where visitation reaches over 200,000 annually, said Brownell.

The roadway will reopen to the public on Nov. 15 at 8 a.m. Hours of operation will return to the traditional 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

Brownell emphasized that security and risk assessments would continue and the road could be closed at higher lake levels, when access to other boat ramps is available.

"The purpose of all the security actions is the protection of life and property, and even though the Army does not discuss specific security measures, the Corps is taking appropriate measures and will continue to monitor conditions," said Brownell. "Also, if national security levels change, it is almost certain that access will change at Lucky Peak," he said.

Lake levels are currently at pool elevation 2,937 above mean sea level, approximately 118 feet below full pool. The mud and lack of shoreline access at lower lake levels can create safety concerns.

"The Corps wants visitors to be aware of the lower lake levels and some of the hazards that can bring. We want them to remember to wear their lifejackets when recreating in, on or near the water," said Brownell.

The Corps' Lucky Peak Lake Office staff is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at (208) 343-0671.

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